Highlights for December 11-17, 2011

Gingerbread Houses & Manly Mustaches

Milk cartons, Popsicle sticks, graham crackers, gum drops, and other edible decorations will be put into creative use at McKinley Elementary as 200 kindergarten, first and second graders converge in the auditorium for some holiday gingerbread house building. This is a 20-year-old tradition at the school, which has been known in the past to create a little friendly competition for creativity and house design.

When: Wednesday, December 14 / 8:15-9:15 a.m.
Where: McKinley ES / 1025 14th St.

For the past several weeks, four SFUSD principals, several dads, grandpas, and others at their schools have been growing mustaches to raise money via Mustaches for Kids on DonorsChoose. To date, close to $8,000 has been raised by Peabody, Miraloma, El Dorado and West Portal elementary schools to pay for things like ordinary classroom supplies, board games and even a high-resolution document camera to replace old overhead projectors. Principals Ron Machado, Will Lucey, Tai-Sun Schoeman, and Willem Vroegh have not only been raising money but also getting compliments about their new facial hair. Principals will join the rest of the San Francisco men who took part this year to celebrate their ‘staches and fundraising success. More information on Mustaches for Kids can be found here.

When: Wednesday, December 14 / 8:00 p.m.
Where: Rickshaw Stop / 155 Fell St.

Former Oakland Raider Tony Stewart will join Washington High athletes to teach sports skills to elementary students during the “I Got Skills” Micro Camp at Lafayette Elementary. The visiting high school students are part of the A.I.M.S (Athletes in Math Succeed) program to build self-confidence with real world projects in the community. The camp is sponsored by Beyond the Locker, a nonprofit organization founded by Stewart, a former NFL tight end.

When: Thursday, December 15 / 12:30-1:30 p.m.
Where: Lafayette ES / 4545 Anza St.

SFUSD schools will be closed for winter recess 12/19 - 1/2, 2012

Starting in January, Highlights will be mailed each Monday at 8:30 a.m.